

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

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USIAC

FOR IEA, IOR/M, STATE FOR EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. REPORTS OF THE MAALOT MASSACRE WERE FEATURE AS LEAD ITEM OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS BY NEARLY ALL MAJOR NON-COMMUNIST MORNING PAPERS TODAY, IN MOST CASES WITH TOP FRONTPAGE TREATMENT. WAH KIU YAT PO LED OFF WITH KISSINGER'S STATEMENT DEPLORING THE GUERRILLAS. SOME OF THE PAPERS USED SUCH WORDS AS "TERRORISM" AND "ATROCITY" IN THEIR HEADLINES, BUT THERE WERE AS YET NO EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

2. NO MENTION WHATEVER WAS FOUND IN THE FOUR LEADING LEFTIST DAILIES

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FYI-SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST CARRIED FOLLOWING NEWS ITEM:

3. QUOTE. AS HONGKONG SEES IT... IN HONG KONG, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ISRAELI CONSULATE GENERAL SAID: "IT IS A DEPLORABLE ACT USING INNOCENT CHILDREN TO GAIN ONE'S POLITICAL AIMS."

4. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EGYPTIAN CONSULATE SAID: "JUSTICE ELIMINATES VIOLENCE, NOT LAWS AND GUNS, JUSTICE REQUIRES AS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE SETTLEMENT, WHICH MUST BE AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN JUNE

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1967, AND THE RESTORATION OF THE TWO MILLION PALESTINIAN

REFUGEES THEIR RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND, OR COMPENSATE THEM ACCORDING TO THE UNITED NATION'S RESOLUTION.

5. "THE INCIDENT IS A SORROWFUL AND DESPERATE ACT WHICH REMINDS US OF THE BOMBARDMENT BY ISRAELI PLANES OF SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND HOLY HOUSES OF EGYPT, SYRIA, LEBANON AND JORDAN.

6. "IT ALSO REMINDS US OF THE FACT THAT MOST OF THE PALESTINIAN ARABS FLED THEIR HOMELAND AS A DIRECT RESULT OF JEWISH TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS THE STERN AND IRGON GANGS, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE ARAB VILLAGE OF DEIR YASSIN WAS ATTACKED, AND 254 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE BRUTALLY SLAUGHTERED IN 1948. UNQUOTE.
IZENBERG

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